

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An optical pickup device as integrated into a disk device which drives optical disks is described. To provide a highly-reliable optical pickup device: without  
5 attenuation of the power of the laser beam used to form a laser spot on the optical disk, accurately monitoring the amount of light emission from the semiconductor laser element, and unaffected by the non-uniform reflectance and permeability of the reflection film and by variations in environmental conditions such as temperature and humidity. Using an optical pickup device which records  
10 and replays information by making a laser beam emitted from a first semiconductor laser element 1a incident upon a recording medium D via a shaping prism 5; a portion of the peripheral rays L1 of the laser beam incident upon the shaping prism 5 is incident upon the outer wall 5c of the shaping prism, and the reflected light thereof is guided to a light-receiving element 6; and the  
15 output of light emitted from the first semiconductor laser element 1a is controlled in accordance with the output signal of the light-receiving element.